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Attorney's Docket 7040-24

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mueller, et al.

Examiner:

Ser. No.: 09/804,975

Art Group:

Title: STENT

Filed: 13 March 2001

Date: 3 July 2001

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This Preliminary Amendment is filed with the filing of the missing parts in the above case, which claims priority from an application filed in Germany as 100 12 460.7 on 15 March 2000. The fees for the claims should be calculated based on the claims remaining after the entry of this Preliminary Amendment, which results in 58 total and 3 independent claims. consistent with the modifications to 37 CFR §1.121, the applicant has provided the amended claims in a clean form on the enclosed replacement sheets.

Amendments to the Disclosure

The specification as filed has been altered from the literal translation document received to delete information above the title, to insert headings according to US practice, and to insert paragraph numbering in lieu of line numbering. No new matter has been added.

Amendments to the Figures

None at this time.

Amendments to the Abstract:

None at this time.

Amendments to the Claims

After the heading "CLAIMS" and before the beginning of the claims, please insert the words: -- What is claimed is: --

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (amended) A stent, [in particular a coronary stent,] comprising :